

President U Thein Sein felicitates Finnish counterpart, PM

NAY PYI TAW, 6 Dec—U Thein Sein, President of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar, has sent messages of felicitations to His Excellency Mr. Sauli Niinisto, President of the Republic of Finland and His Excellency Mr. Jyrki Tapani Katainen, Prime Minister of the Republic of Finland on the occasion of the Independence Day of the Republic of Finland, which falls on 6 December 2013.

MNA

Laotian President to pay state visit to Myanmar

NAY PYI TAW, 6 Dec— At the invitation of U Thein Sein, President of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar, and wife Daw Khin Khin Win, Mr. Choummaly SAYASONE, President of the Lao People's Democratic Republic, and wife Mrs. Keosaychay SAYASONE will pay a state visit to the Republic of the Union of Myanmar in the near future.— MNA

Myanmar affirms support for peaceful resolution between ASEAN members concerned and China through series of negotiations: President U Thein Sein Philippines reaffirms its support for Myanmar's reform process: President Mr. Benigno S. Aquino III

President of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar U Thein Sein shaking hands with President of the Philippines Mr. Benigno S. Aquino III at Malacañang Palace in Manila.

MNA



MANILA, 5 Dec — President of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar U Thein Sein received red carpet treatment from President of the Philippines Mr. Benigno S. Aquino III at Malacañang Palace in Manila of the Republic of the Philippines at 10 am LST today.

On his arrival at the welcoming ceremony, the President was accorded a warm welcome by the President of the Philippines, and the two Presidents took the salute and inspected the Guard of Honour.

After the ceremony, the Philippine President introduced his welcoming party to President U Thein Sein who also introduced his entourage to the Philippine President.

Next, the President signed the visitors' book at the hall of the Palace. Then, the two Presidents exchanged warm greetings at the Music Hall of the Palace.

A bilateral meeting took place at President Hall of the Palace. The President was accompanied by Union Minis-

ters U Wunna Maung Lwin, U Soe Maung, U Myint Hlaing, U Zeyar Aung and Dr Daw Myat Myat Ohn Khin, Chief of the General Staff (Army, Navy, Air) General Hla Htay Win, Deputy Ministers U Ye Htut, Dr Win Myint and Dr Than Aung, and Myanmar Ambassador to the Philippines U Ye Myint Aung. Together with the Philippine President, the secretaries, the undersecretaries, high-ranking officials and the Philippines Ambassador to Myanmar also attended the meeting.

The bilateral talks focused on a broad range of issues on ASEAN and regional cooperation including trade and investment, education, human rights, agriculture and forestry, hotels and tourism, bilateral air services, banking, rural development and poverty reduction, security and peace-making experiences. Next, a signing ceremony of bilateral agreements and memoranda of understanding followed in the

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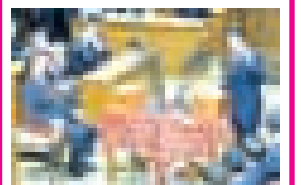
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Indian capital witnesses record voter turnout in assembly polls

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Japan donates heavy machinery to Public Works

YANGON, 5 Dec— Since 2011, the Japanese Government has been providing Myanmar with necessary heavy machinery for rehabilitation of flood-hit victims and construction works in the country.

Under the programme of Japan's Non-Project Grant for Contributing to the Restoration and Disaster Prevention Efforts for the Areas and People

Affected by the Flood Disaster in 2011, the Japanese Government has donated a total of 70 heavy machinery worth Yen 800 million to Public Works under the Ministry of Construction.

On 4 December, staff of Public Works in collaboration with JACA experts and engineers of Sakai Heavy Industries Ltd carried out road works on Kyeinpinse-Setkawt Road near milepost

12/6 in Ayeyawady Region with the use of Sakai Road Stabilizer PM ss550, one of the 15 types of heavy machinery.

Sagawah

Photo shows heavy machinery donated by Japanese Government.

MNA



LOCAL NEWS

Anti-Narcotic Drives

Heroin worth K 92.4 million seized in Mogaung

MOGAUNG, 5 Dec—As drug elimination tasks are being carried out with momentum in Mogaung Township, a suspected woman was arrested along with heroin worth K 92.4 million on 2 December.

Acting on a tip-off, SIP Zaw Zaw Moe and party of Surveillance Squad of

Mogaung Township Police Force assigned duty by Commander of Township Police Station Police Captain Aung Thu searched a Prado driven by Tin Naing Lin heading for Phakant from Mogaung on 2 December morning.

Together with witnesses, the police squad searched the

car and seized the powder believed to be heroin in 77 soap boxes weighing 92.4 grams worth K 92.4 million from the bag of passenger Daw Mie Yin.

Mogaung Police Station opened a file of lawsuit against Daw Mie Yin, 60, under the law.

MMAL-062

US Ambassador and party observe alternative development tasks



US Ambassador and party observe progress of alternative development tasks in Loilem and Panglong regions.

LOILEM, 5 Dec—Donor country Germany donated US\$5 million for alternative development and rural development tasks in Loilem and Panglong regions of Shan State (South).

UNODC was assigned duty to carry out alternative development tasks in 40 villages in Loilem and Panglong regions.

US Ambassador Mr Derek J Mitchell, Mr Roland Kobia, Ambassador, Delegation of the European Union to Myanmar, Mr Jason Eligh, Country Manager, UNODC, Mr Jochen Wiese, Advisor UNODC accompanied by Police Col Myint Aung (Central Committee for Drug Abuse Control-International) and Police Major Saw Lay Wah (Taunggyi Anti-Drug Squad) arrived at Mongpun Village-tract of Loilem Township on 2 December afternoon.

The US ambassador and party inspected progress of construction of Mongpun-Lonaung rural gravel road.

They were welcomed by local Pa-O national races

with flower baskets.

After looking into road construction, they cordially met with local people and asked them.

On arrival at Hotint-Metlang Village of Loilem Township, they were welcomed by local Shan national dances with music and traditional dances.

They also visited Coffee Nursery in Metlang Village.

At 5 pm, they viewed thriving perennial crops plantation in Kyuyon Village

of Panglong Township and poppy plantation.

They also visited Panglong Monument in Panglong. At the hall of Loilem Township General Administration Department, the Ambassador and party met with Commander of Loilem District Police Force Police Lt-Col Aung San Myint and departmental officials and exchanged views on regional development tasks.

MMAL-Moe Lwin Oo (Loilem)

Legal Affairs

Chief Justice of Bago Region High Court inspects jail



BAGO, 5 Dec—Chief Justice of Bago Region High Court on 2 December morning together with Bago District Judge Daw Khin Swe Oo, Head of Office Daw Kyu Kyu San,

Director U Naing Win of Myanmar Correctional Department and Staff Officer U Than Naing of Bago Jail inspected convenience of accommodation, foods and health care for prisoners and

inmates, security of female prisoners, the acts where prisoners suffer torture or not and enjoying rights of laws for the prisoners and fulfilled the requirements.

MMAL-Thant Zin

Communications

One-time Used GSM SIM cards for SEA Games period

Staff of MPT sell GSM one-time used SIM cards to customers.



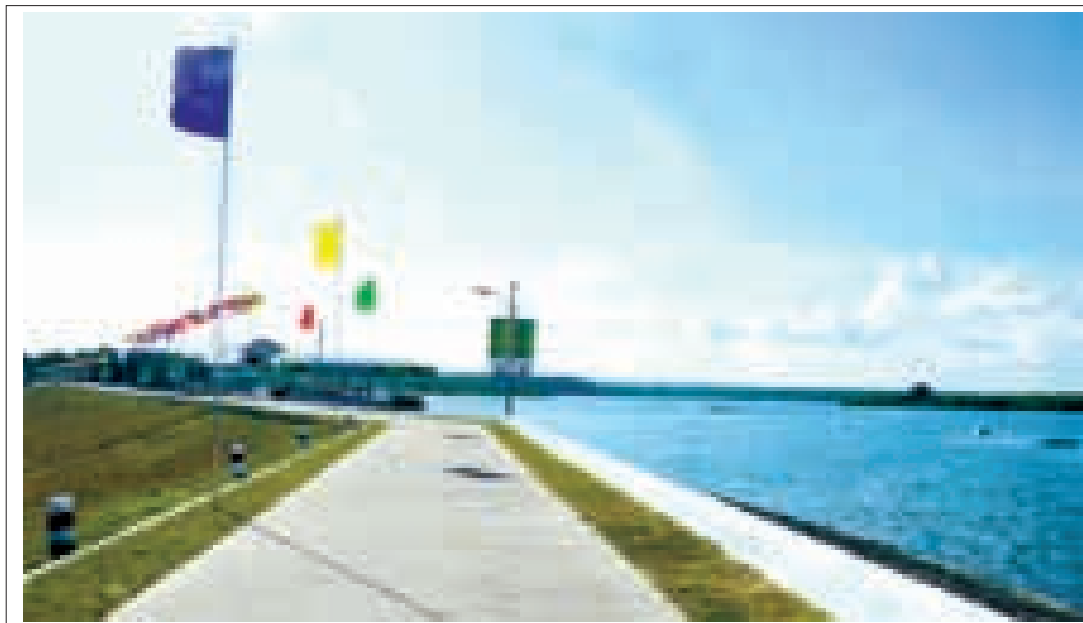
NAY PYI TAW, 5 Dec—One-time Used GSM SIM cards worth K 5000 are available at the Sports Village and MPC in Nay

Pyi Taw as of 3 December. Myanmar Posts and Telecommunications sell the one-time Used SIM cards that can be used for

50 minutes in both local and international calls. Incoming calls are free of charge. International calls only will be used for about 19 minutes. The one-time used cards are fixed at K 20000. The cards can be used with top-up cards in two months, said an official of MPT.

“Priority is being given to foreigners for telecommunication services at MPC. Moreover, the cards will be sold to the local people. The SIM card sale centres have been built for the SEA Games to sell the K 5000-worth SIM cards to the customers. The cards are sold as of 3 December,” said staff of Pyinmana Auto-Exchange who are selling SIM cards at MPC.—MMAL-Khin Yadana: Photo: Tin Soe

Ngalaik Dam in Nay Pyi Taw is ready to be used for holding rowing event of XXVII SEA Games. TIN SOE (MMAL)



WORLD

King urges Thais to perform duties for national benefits

BANGKOK, 5 Dec — Thai King Bhumibol Adulyadej on Thursday urged all Thais to perform their duties for the country's interests, stability and unity.

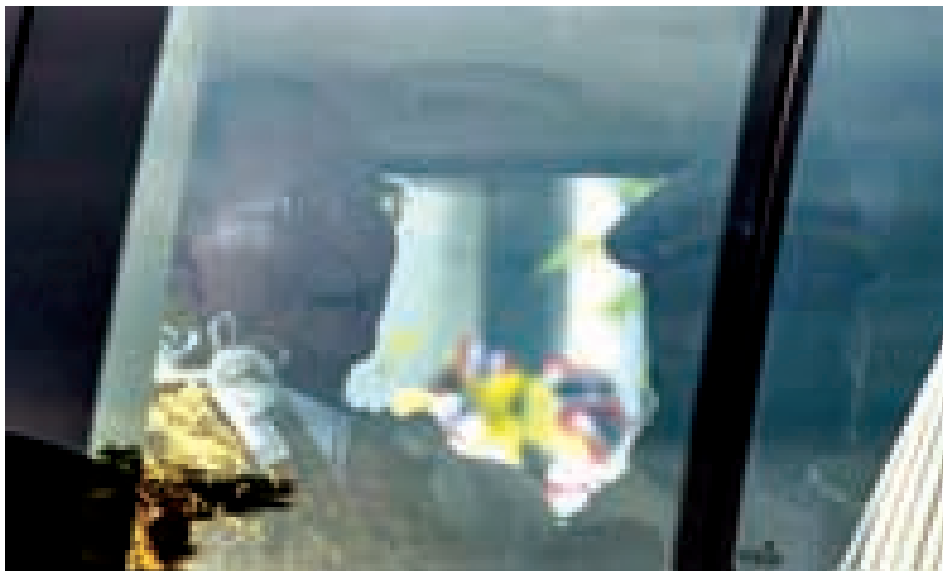
In an address delivered on his 86th birthday, the king said Thailand has been peaceful and blissful because people are united and love the country.

He asked every Thai to perform their duties to promote benefits, stability and safety of the entire nation.

The live broadcast birthday ceremony was held at the Rajapracha Samakhom Pavillion of Klai Kanwon Palace in Hua Hin.

Prime Minister Yingluck Shinawatra represented the government and the people to wish the king a happy birthday and expressed gratitude for his work for the country.

Xinhua



King Bhumibol Adulyadej travels in a motorcade during celebrations for his 86th birthday.—REUTERS

20 killed in suicide bombing attack in Yemen

SANAA, 5 Dec — At least 20 soldiers were killed and more than 42 others injured when suicide car bombings rocked the Yemeni defence ministry in the capital Sanna on Thursday morning, officials told Xinhua. An official of the defence ministry said anonymously that the explosions were caused by suicide car bombings that damaged part of the wall of the ministry in downtown Yemen, adding that first car bomb hit the western gate of the ministry and the second one broke into the gate and exploded inside the ministry complex.

At least 20 soldiers were killed in the blast following exchange of gunfire with attackers, he said.

Medics in Al-Jomo-

hourly Hospital said the hospital has already received 32 wounded soldiers.

Security sources said that following the explosions, many assailants wearing military uniforms broke into three departments of the ministry, and exchanged gunfire with the soldiers. The defence ministry is located in a densely populated area and the attack occurred as local citizens were heading to work.

Witnesses told Xinhua that ambulances were seen rushing to the scene, and heavy gunshots were heard inside and near the ministry building following the blast that smashed the windows of neighbouring residential houses. Soldiers guarding the ministry have managed to control the situation and

captured several suicide attackers who broke into the ministry, said the official.

Meanwhile, the official Saba news agency reported that the car bombing attacks targeted a military hospital in the ministry complex, while another car carried assailants who then broke into the hospital's building before it exploded.

The attackers took advantage of some ongoing construction in the ministry to break into the complex, Saba reported, citing an official source of the ministry.

It said the ministry's soldiers killed all the assailants and regain control of the building. Government officials blamed the al-Qaida for the attack, saying it bore the hall marks of the Islamic militants.—Xinhua

Upper house panel OKs secrecy bill before final vote

TOKYO, 5 Dec—A special Diet committee approved on Thursday a controversial bill for a new secrecy law, clearing the way for its passage through the upper house later in the day, even though opposition parties stepped up criticism of the ruling bloc's attempt to force it to a vote.

With an eye to early enactment before the current Diet session ends Friday, the Liberal Democratic Party and the New Komeito party presented to two opposition parties a plan to set up a third-party oversight organization within the Cabinet Office to monitor

through the bill without further deliberations to put in place an oversight mechanism independent of the government.

Senior ruling party lawmakers said a final decision on when the House of Councillors puts the bill to a vote depends on how opposition parties respond.

The ruling bloc has been consistent in its plan to seek passage of the bill before Friday, given that Prime Minister Shinzo Abe has placed the secrecy bill as a prerequisite for Japan to share sensitive diplomatic and defence information with other countries via the



Japanese Prime Minister Shinzo Abe (R) speaks during a face-to-face debate with Banri Kaieda (L), leader of the main opposition Democratic Party of Japan, at the Diet in Tokyo on 4 Dec, 2013.—KYODO NEWS

the designation and declassification of state secrets.

Speaking at the special committee in the upper house, Chief Cabinet Secretary Yoshihide Suga said the new body needs to have "a high degree of independence," in an apparent bid to counter criticism the legislation could undermine the public's right to know.

Still, opposition parties appear resolved to keep the ruling bloc from hurrying

newly launched National Security Council.

"We hope that (the Diet) will pass the bill before the current Diet session ends," Suga, the government's top spokesman, said at a Press conference.

To ease opposition to the bill, Abe said Wednesday that Japan will establish a mechanism to clearer rules to define what state secrets are and exercise proper oversight.—Kyodo News

S Korea, US, Britain to hold 2-day joint naval exercise from Sunday

SEOUL, 5 Dec — South Korea, the United States and Britain plan to hold a two-day joint naval exercise from Sunday in waters off South Korea, Yonhap News Agency reported on Thursday.

South Korea's Aegis destroyer Yulgok YiYi, the US Navy's guided missile cruiser Shiloh and British navy destroyer Daring will take part in the exercise, Yonhap said.

"The joint exercise has nothing to do with China's

air defence zone because it was previously set before China made the announcement," Kim Min Seok told a Press briefing.

Yonhap said the US and British naval ships are to arrive at the southern port of Busan on Thursday.

Meanwhile, South Korea's navy said naval chiefs of South Korea and Britain will hold a meeting on Thursday in Busan on ways to promote cooperation between the two navies.

Kyodo News

Chemical experts eye port to load Syria toxins onto US ship

UNITED NATIONS, 5 Dec — The United Nations and the global chemical weapons watchdog are awaiting approval from a country to use its port to load Syria's most deadly chemicals onto

a US ship for destruction offshore, the head of the mission said on Wednesday.

Sigrid Kaag, head of the joint mission of the United Nations and the

Organization for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons Syria mission, briefed the UN Security Council on Wednesday but did not identify which country she had been in talks with.

The OPCW said on Saturday the United States had started modifying a US naval vessel to be able to destroy Syria's 500 tons of chemicals, including actual nerve agents—neutralizing them offshore with other chemicals in a process known as hydrolysis.

Italy, Norway and Denmark have offered to transport Syria's chemicals from the northern Syrian port of Latakia with military escorts. The chemicals would then be transferred to the US ship at another port.

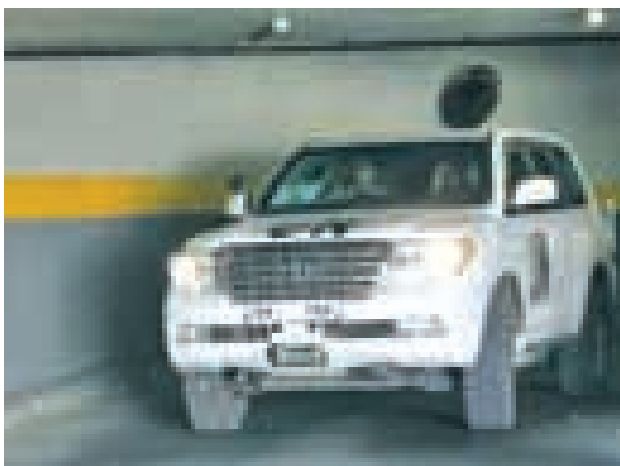
"We're still awaiting confirmation by a member

state that a port is available for trans-loading, so it will be trans-loading in a port," Kaag told reporters after briefing the council.

When asked if the port to be used would likely be in the Mediterranean, she said: "The geographic range is quite significant, so no, not necessarily. At the moment, we're discussing and we're hoping to have early confirmation soon."

The Hague-based OPCW, which won the Nobel Peace Prize in October, has been given the task of overseeing destruction of Syria's chemical weapons stocks under an agreement that averted US missile strikes. It followed a sarin gas attack on the outskirts of Damascus in August that killed hundreds of people.

Reuters



A United Nations (UN) vehicle transporting a team of experts from the Organization for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons (OPCW), leaves their hotel in Damascus on 22 Oct, 2013.—REUTERS

SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY

Israeli lens promises 'bionic Braille' to the unsighted

'Our solution can help blind people read letters, or help you orient yourself in three dimensions,' says Prof. Zeev Zalevsky.

By Rivka Borocho

This latest invention from Israel is something that will turn eyes and heads: Prof. Zeev Zalevsky from Bar-Ilan University has developed a bionic contact lens to help the blind see.

Fitted and worn like a regular contact lens, this new invention is manufactured with electrodes, which get signals from a camera — either held in the hand or worn on one's glasses.

the camera translates the image to a type of electronic Braille, and the contact lens "excites" the retina with tactile sensations.

"It's like reading Braille, not with your fingertips but with your eyes," says Zalevsky. "We can encode an image with many more points than the Braille system and use these to stimulate the surface of the cornea."

Unlike Braille, which relies on positioning of six dots to convey information to a reader, Zalevsky's invention can actually transmit images in high detail to those who are blind. How does it do this? The sensors

tips. In fact, the corneas are the most sensitive areas in the human body to this kind of stimulation.

This new technology, yet to be tested on human eyes, could open doors for those who cannot see.

See by feeling your eyes

"Our solution can help blind people read letters, or help you orient yourself in three dimensions. This means you could cross the road without getting run over by a car, from a functional point of view," Zalevsky says.

There are existing companies, such as Second Sight, that promise to create an artificial retina. But there are major problems with this approach, says Zalevsky.

For one, the user can see only about 16 pixels. Compared to mega pixels of vision in a normal eye, current solutions don't really offer more than a small beacon in the fog. The Israeli device promises tens of thousands of pixels.

Also, current solutions do not work for people born blind. Since the visual cortex was never fully developed, the artificial retina has nothing to work with.

On top of that, surgery to attach the system to the eyes is invasive, as electrodes must be connected to the nerves of the eye, and the connection needs to be renewed after a few years.

Zalevsky's tool, developed with researchers Prof. Michael Belkin and Yevgeny Beiderman from Israel, aims to solve these challenges, and do more — like provide for night vision.

When an infrared camera is connected to the transponder that delivers information to the contact lens, wearers could see in the dark, says Zalevsky.

Two years until launch?

The tech advance here is in the contact lens and the way it pairs wirelessly with any off-the-shelf digital camera to deliver images encoded in a special way. A US-based company prints the electrodes onto the lens, based on Zalevsky's instructions. The components communicate one way from camera to lens, using radio frequency identification (RFID).

To date, the bionic lens has been tested successfully on animals, who were able to see their way

through obstacles in the dark. It has been tested also on the fingertips of healthy human volunteers. After a few minutes of learning how the tool delivers tactile information, wearers were able to sense and recognize simple images like a door, a window or a car. It can also be used to transmit letters of the alphabet, which perhaps one day might provide a more natural reading alternative to Braille.

"The processing here is low in complexity," says Zalevsky. "The processor card is in the camera itself and the algorithm is something simple. The solution can be paired with an iPhone so the user can point and project an image to the contact lens if they prefer

not to wear the camera on their glasses."

The invention is waiting to pass clinical trials before it can be marketed. If Zalevsky reaches his investment goal (through the tech transfer company at Bar-Ilan University), the technology could be on the market and ready for sales in as few as two years.

This is just one of a number of new technology advances from Israel for people with visual disabilities.

Prof. Shy Shoham at the Technion-Israel Institute of Technology in Haifa is working on a retinal prosthesis, what he calls "Google Glass for the blind." This attempts to artificially activate the original sense of vision. He says that his and Zalevsky's research are complementary.

A third Israeli company, OrCam, has come up with an image-processing and computer visual tool to help bring vision to people who are blind.

Zalevsky is also currently working on a similar sort of device to help people with hearing impairments.



Prototype of the bionic contact lens invented in Israel

When a user looks or points the camera to an object — a door, a person, a shop, letters on paper —

in the cornea of the eye, he points out, are 600 times more sensitive to tactile stimulation than the finger-

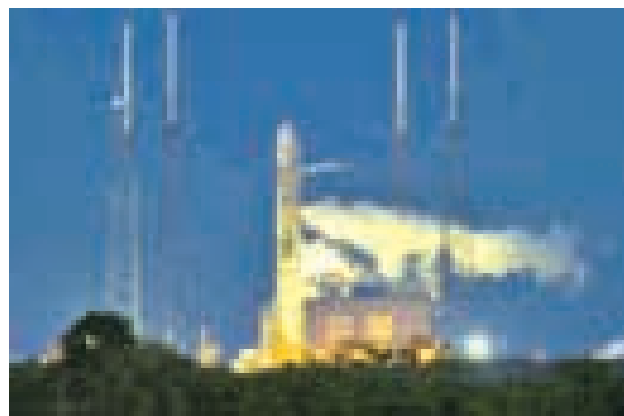


Prof. Zeev Zalevsky

SpaceX rocket lifts off on first commercial satellite launch

CAPE CANAVERAL, (Florida), 5 Dec — An unmanned *Falcon 9* rocket developed by Space Exploration Technologies, or *SpaceX*, blasted off on Tuesday to put its first commercial satellite into orbit, staking a potentially game-changing claim in a global industry worth nearly \$190 billion a year. The 22-story rocket lifted off from its sea-side launch pad at Cape Canaveral Air Force Station in Florida at 5:41 pm EST/2241 GMT. Two previous launch attempts last week were scuttled by technical glitches, including a last-second abort on Thursday. Engineers later discovered oxygen inside the rocket's ground-based engine igniter system.

Perched on top of the rocket was a 7,000-pound (3,175 kg) communications satellite owned by Luxembourg-based SES SA, which operates a 54-satellite fleet, the world's second-largest. "I'd like to thank SES for taking a chance on *SpaceX*," company founder and chief executive Elon Musk posted



The unmanned Space Exploration Technologies' *Falcon 9* rocket is seen before liftoff at Cape Canaveral, Florida on 28 Nov, 2013.—REUTERS

on Twitter an hour before the launch. "We've given it our all." About 30 minutes after liftoff, the satellite, known as SES-8 and worth more than \$100 million, was in an elliptical orbit that reached more than 50,000 miles from Earth, about a quarter of the way to the moon. From there, SES-8 will maneuver itself down to a circular, 22,369-mile (36,000-km) high orbit to provide television, broadband and other communications services to customers in India, China, Vietnam and elsewhere in Asia.

The delivery of the SES-8 satellite "confirms the upgraded *Falcon 9* launch vehicle delivers to the industry's highest performance standards," Musk said in a statement after the launch. "We appreciate SES's early confidence in *SpaceX* and look forward to launching additional SES satellites in the years to come," he said. SES-8 is the first commercial communications satellite to be launched from Cape Canaveral in four years. In the 1980s, the United States dominated the

commercial launch industry, now worth about \$6.5 billion a year, a report by the Satellite Industry Association showed. The global satellite industry overall had revenues of nearly \$190 billion in 2012, including nearly \$90 billion in television services alone, the trade group said.

"It's an extremely important satellite for us," Martin Halliwell, chief technology officer of SES, told reporters before the launch. "We know that as we go forward into these very significant growth markets that it's absolutely critical that we have a cost-effective and efficient way to get to orbit."

That's really what *SpaceX* has brought us," Halliwell said. Previous SES satellites were launched primarily aboard Russian Proton and European Ariane rockets, which cost far more than the approximately \$55 million the company paid for its ride on *SpaceX*'s *Falcon* booster, he said.

Reuters

Facebook phases in 'Unfollow' button

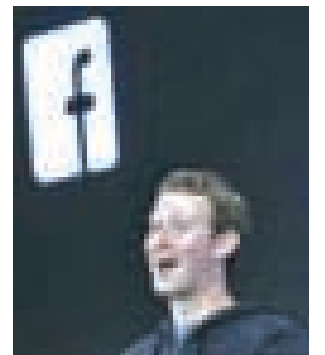
NEW YORK, 5 Dec — Facebook Inc has replaced its "Hide All" button with the more succinct "Unfollow," letting users block all messages and posts from selected friends. As with the previous button, it gives users the option of blocking content from certain people without offending them, say through de-friending. The latter alternative severs ties with that person on the social network, without notifying them.

"This means you are still friends, but updates from that person won't appear in your News Feed. The goal of this change is to help people curate their newsfeed and see more of the content that they care about," Facebook said in an email.

The world's largest social network is constantly tweaking its newsfeed—the main page users look at on the network—often by reducing clutter, especially from advertising, and bringing to the surface or revealing the posts deemed

most relevant to any particular user.

Facebook began rolling out the "Unfollow" button and a related change to its users on Monday. It added a "Following" button next to the usual "Like" button on a page or next to the "Friends" button on a personal timeline, which will also enable users to block posts. —Reuters



Mark Zuckerberg, Facebook's co-founder and chief executive introduces 'Home' a Facebook app suite that integrates with Android during a Facebook press event in Menlo Park, California, on 4 April, 2013.—REUTERS

BUSINESS & HEALTH

HTC 'One Mini' faces UK ban after court ruling on patent infringement



Customers hold bags containing their HTC One mobile phone purchases during the first day of public sales at Taman Angrek Mall in Jakarta, on 8 June, 2013.

REUTERS

LONDON, 5 Dec — HTC Corp will have to stop selling its One Mini smartphone in Britain from 6 December after a British court ruled the Taiwanese company had infringed patents owned by Finnish rival Nokia.

Justice Richard Arnold of the England and Wales High Court on Tuesday granted Nokia a final injunction to stop HTC from continuing to infringe upon

a European Patent held by Nokia related to mobile phone microchips. The judge had ruled in October that HTC's One phone contained the microchips.

HTC, responding to the lawsuit, said on Wednesday it would appeal the ruling. "We have filed urgent application to appeal. In the meantime, we are working with our chip suppliers to explore alternative solutions," it said in a

statement. Analysts said the ban would have limited impact on HTC's sales as the One Mini is also not its flagship model.

Europe accounts for around 20 percent of the company's overall sales, they added. Shares in HTC slid 3.6 percent in early trading on Wednesday, underperforming a 0.2 percent gain in the broader Taiwan market.

The British judge had allowed HTC a partial stay on the ruling, so that it can continue selling its flagship One model pending an appeal, because a ban would cause "considerable damage" to HTC's UK business.

But for the smaller One Mini, the judge said the balance came down in favor of refusing a stay because HTC had designed and launched it when it knew it was facing a claim for infringement of the patent.

Reuters

BlackBerry says making headway with corporate, government clients

TORONTO, 5 Dec — The number of large business and government clients that have installed or are testing BlackBerry Ltd's mobile device management service has risen roughly 20 percent over the past six months, the embattled smartphone maker said on Tuesday. BlackBerry, which recently halted plans to sell itself and shook up its management team, said large customers such as Morgan Stanley and Boeing Co are currently running and

testing its BlackBerry Enterprise Service 10 (BES).

The product allows such companies to securely manage devices that run on Apple's iOS operating system and Google's Android operating system as well as BlackBerry devices on their internal networks. Apple and Android devices have eclipsed BlackBerry and now dominate the smartphone market. BlackBerry is counting heavily on the service as it charts a new course under the leadership

of recently appointed interim Chief Executive John Chen, who is keen to rebuild the company as more of a niche player focused on the so-called enterprise market of large business and corporate clients.

Chen, who took the reins at BlackBerry last month, issued an open letter to enterprise clients earlier this week, seeking to reassure them that the company is very much alive and here to stay. The company, in a statement on Tuesday, said the number of enterprise clients that have now installed or are testing its BlackBerry Enterprise Service 10 offering has risen to 30,000 from roughly 25,000 this summer. "We enable any organization or government agency to manage iOS, Android and BlackBerry devices without compromising security," Stephen Bates, head of the enterprise business unit at BlackBerry, said in a statement.—Reuters



The company logo is seen at the BlackBerry campus in Waterloo, on 22 Sept, 2013. — REUTERS

Few people read restaurant calorie information

NEW YORK, 5 Dec — More fast food and chain restaurants are posting calorie counts on their menus, but a new study suggests only one in three diners reads that information. The good news is, most consumers who do read calorie counts take them into consideration when deciding what to order. "Restaurant food tends to have many more calories than people realize, and many more calories than if the same food is cooked at home whether because of the preparation method or because restaurants often provide large portion sizes," Katherine Bauer told Reuters Health in an email. Bauer, from the Centre for Obesity Research and Education at Temple University in



A menu for fried chicken and french fries is displayed on a wall at a fast food restaurant in New York, on 30 Oct, 2006. — REUTERS

Philadelphia, was not involved with the new study.

Some US cities, including New York, require chain restaurants to post calorie counts for diners. As part of the 2010 Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act,

chains with at least 20 locations nationwide will have to list nutrition information on their menus. "Ideally we hope that restaurant patrons see the calorie information posted at fast food and other restaurants and choose a

meal with fewer calories. So far, the evidence is really mixed about whether that actually happens," Bauer said. The new study was led by Holly Wethington from the National Centre for Chronic Disease Prevention and Health Promotion, part of the Centres for Disease Control and Prevention in Atlanta, Georgia. She and her colleagues used the 2009 national HealthStyles survey, which assessed people's health-related attitudes, knowledge and behaviors.

They analyzed responses from 4,363 participants about whether they had read calorie information at fast food and chain restaurants, and if they had, how they used that information.—Reuters

Radioimmunotherapy shows promise for possible HIV cure

WASHINGTON, 5 Dec — US researchers said on Tuesday they have used radioimmunotherapy (RIT) to destroy remaining HIV-infected cells in the blood samples of patients treated with antiretroviral therapy, offering a possible new strategy for curing HIV infection.

Patients infected with HIV can use highly active antiretroviral therapy (HAART) to effectively suppress the replication of the virus in the body, but scientists believe reservoirs of latently infected cells still persist in the body, preventing the possibility of a permanent cure.

In an HIV patient on HAART, drugs suppress viral replication, which means they keep the number of viral particles in a patient's bloodstream very low. However, HAART cannot kill the HIV-infected cells," lead author

Ekaterina Dadachova, professor at Albert Einstein College of Medicine, said in a statement. "Any strategy for curing HIV infection must include a method to eliminate viral-infected cells."

In her study, Dadachova and colleagues administered RIT to blood samples from 15 HIV patients treated with HAART. RIT, which has historically been employed to treat cancer, uses cells known as monoclonal antibodies to recognize antigens and then bind to them. Antigens are foreign objects like bacteria and viruses that stimulate an immune response in the body.

The monoclonal antibodies are also paired with a radioactive isotope, and when injected into the patient's bloodstream, they deliver radiation to the target cells, killing them.

Xinhua



Vehicles sprayed in precaution against avian flu

VIENTIANE, 5 Dec — Vehicles crossing the Lao-Thai Friendship Bridge on their way to Lao capital Vientiane will be sprayed with disinfectant to guard against the spread of avian influenza, state-run daily Vientiane Times reported on Tuesday.

While there has been no outbreak of avian influenza in Laos this year, some neighboring countries have reported bird deaths as a result of the virus. Officials

are taking the precautionary measures to insure against an outbreak because of the devastating effect it could have on the burgeoning Lao economy."It's so difficult to control the outbreak of flu if it occurs," an official told Vientiane Times.

Avian influenza experts from the Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry's Livestock and Fishery Department said spraying vehicles is a proven method to stop the spread of the disease.

The possibility of avian flu adapting into a virus transmissible to humans is a major concern for health officials. Laos has previously had outbreaks of avian influenza in Vientiane, Savannakhet, Champassak and Luang Namtha provinces. Several lives were lost and thousands of birds were culled before the spread of the virus was halted.

Health officials in Laos have emphasized that even though the country is not

experiencing an outbreak at present, citizens should remain vigilant. Many residents of Vientiane purchase goods and poultry products from neighbouring Thailand which had experienced outbreaks in the past. People are encouraged to wash their hands and avoid eating chickens or ducks that have died from sickness. As an added precaution people are being reminded to adequately cook poultry before consumption. — Xinhua

Press Conference on Dawei SEZ project held

YANGON, 5 Dec—Press Conference on Dawei Special Economic Zone project and its related projects took place at Myanmar Port Authority (Headquarters) here this afternoon.

Today's press meet is to explain the latest development of the Dawei SEZ project and the results of fourth Myanmar-Thai Joint High Level Committee Meeting on Dawei SEZ which was held in Bangkok of Thailand on 21 November.

With the aims of exploring international investments, making coordination between the investors and giving necessary advice, Special Purpose Vehicles (SPV) named "the Dawei SEZ Development Company" was jointly established by Foreign Economic Relations Department of Myanmar and Neighboring Countries Economic De-

velopment Cooperation Agency of Thailand. The company comprising three directors each from both sides held its Board of Director (BOD) meeting in Bangkok of Thailand on 21 November.

The overall Dawei SEZ covers deep seaport, industrial zone, steel plant, fertilizer plant, coal and natural gas-fired power plant and water supply system as well as motor road to link Thailand's Kanchaburi province, railroad, oil and gas pipeline and electrical cable line, while the initial phase of the project includes two-lane motor road, small wharf, industrial zone involving labor intensive industries, power plant, residential building, water supply system and communication lines.

The first was a contract between the Dawei Special Economic Zone Authority and Dawei SEZ Development. The second deal was

a tripartite memorandum among Italian-Thai Development, the Dawei SEZ Authority and the SPV. The third is an agreement terminating the existing concession of ITD to construct and manage the Dawei project, which was earlier signed between the Thai company and the Myanmar Port Authority. The termination of Italian-Thai company's works is aimed at make way for invitation to prospective international investors and developers for tendering the project.

Selection of International Consulting Firms for Due Diligence Assessment of Italian-Thai company's works and project management officers will be selected. International developers can bid the tender starting Dec. 20 for the initial phase of the project and the tender will be opened on March 31, 2014 and the project work is set to begin on May



Press Conference on Dawei Special Economic Zone project in progress at Myanmar Port Authority (Head Office).—MNA

15, 2014.

In the new process, the Italian-Thai company is allowed to re-tender the project along with others. The Due Diligence Assessment value will be paid to the Italian-Thai Company when other companies win the tender.

The project area is being reduced to 196 square-kilometers (sq-km) cover-

ing six villages from 204.5 sq-km covering 16 villages.

It was attended by Chairman of the Special Work Committee for Implementation of Dawei SEZ Union Minister for Labour, Employment and Social Security U Aye Myint, Chairman of the Dawei SEZ Management Committee Deputy Minister for Transport U Han Sein,

Chairman of Community Development Subcommittee Deputy Minister for Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement U Phone Swe and Chairman of the Dawei Special Economic Zone Project and Related Works Procedural Drafting Subcommittee, Vice-Governor of the Central Bank of Myanmar U Hset Aung.

MNA

Thai teams bag two gold in Chinlone events (primary level)

NAY PYI TAW, 5 Dec— Two gold medals of Chinlone events (primary level) went to Thai Men's and Women's teams as Chinlone games continued for second day at Wunna Theikdhi Indoor Stadium, here, today.

Host Myanmar is allowed to compete in only three events of the four kinds of Myanmar tradi-

tional game, Chinlone.

In the group match, Thai men's team won the gold medal with 256 points, Laotian men's team, with 215, Malaysian men's team, with 188 and Cambodian men's team, with 246.

In the final match, Thai men's team beat Cambodian men's team (256-236).

Thai women's team, Laotian women's team and Malaysian women's team competed in the Chinlone event (primary level). In the final match, Thai team won over Laotian team (202-192).

So far, Thai teams have stood first with two gold and two silver medals in the medal tally.

MNA



Thai women's Chinlone team celebrate their victory in securing gold medal in Chinlone event.—KYEMON



Photo shows gold medalist Thai men's Chinlone team.—KYEMON

Six Myanmar referees named to take charge of football, Futsal matches in SEA Games

YANGON, 5 Dec — Six Myanmar referees were named to take charge of the football and Futsal matches of the 27th South East Asian Games, according to Myanmar Football Federation.

U Win Cho and U Aung Moe will serve as referee and assistant referee in the matches of U-23 men's football tournament while two others, Daw Sein Cho Aung and Daw

Su Nyein Aye oversee the matches of women's football tournament as referee and assistant referee and the remaining two, U Myint Khaing and Daw Aye

Aye Mu, the matches of men's and women's Futsal tournaments as referees respectively.

Myanma Alinn-Soe Win-SP

Low pressure still persists

NAY PYI TAW, 5 Dec— According to the observations at (11:30) hrs MST today, the low pressure area over the Southwest Bay of Bengal still persists

and it is likely to further intensify into a depression within next (24) hours, announced the Meteorology and Hydrology Department.—MNA





The New Light of Myanmar

XXVII SEA GAMES SPECIAL



4 Days To The Opening Ceremony

Two owls to foster friendship, cooperation among participating countries of SEA Games



Every South East Asian country has a lucky creature. Myanmar designated its traditional lucky charms : a couple of owls as the official mascot of Myanmar SEA Games 2013.

Male owl is called U Shwe Yoe and female owl is called Daw Moe. Both owls are dressed up with beautiful Myanmar national clothes, called Longyis.

A couple of owls is auspicious for Myanmar and it is widely believed in the country to bring good luck and prosperity to a family. Besides, the owl has its own personality such as wise, calm, luck, loyal and friendly and it would bring forth cooperation, friendship and better understanding among the participating countries. Happy and charming faces of the mascot are saying "You Welcome!" to participants from foreign countries, representing the joyful and lively part of the games.

It is important to express a warm welcome feeling of Myanmar as the host country for the 27th SEA Games.

By Soe

Rooms at Nay Pyi Taw Sipin Guest House expected not to be available on opening, closing days of SEA Games

Rooms would not be available for guests at the Nay Pyi Taw Sipin Guest House for the night of the official opening day of the 27th SEA Games on 11 December as the guest house has given priority to volunteers and technical teams who support the games, an official of the guest house said.

So far, three-bed 417 rooms of the government-run guest house have been booked by the Ministry of Sports for that night for the supporting personnel including volunteers, technicians, medical teams, referees etc who would participate in the opening ceremony, said U Nay Win Tun, the deputy In-charge of the guest house.

The guest house run by the Nay Pyi Taw Development Committee has three-bed 1312 rooms and

By Soe

a ceremony to officially close the games on 22 December.

"Guests have to wait at the reception these days until the check-out time to get rooms," a receptionist of the guest house said.

To get rooms, foreigners need recommendation from a ministry concerned which hired them to assist in hosting the SEA Games, he said.

A three-bed room costs K 6000 for three guests, K 5000 for two guests and K 5500 for one guest while an air-conditioned room costs K 15,000.

Twenty-one new buildings which have been completed before the 27th SEA Games have three-bed 168 AC rooms and can accommodate 504 guests.

Cyclists of Myanmar Cycling Federation eye gold medals

NAY PYI TAW, 5 Dec— Myanmar cyclists will put all their energy into cycling races to bring glory to the nation, said U Zaw Myint, the leader of Myanmar team.

Cross Country Event of the cycling race of the 27th South East Asian Game will take place at Mount Pleasant Cycling Ground here from 9 to 11 am on 12 December.

Forty cyclists from men's teams, women's teams and individuals of host Myanmar, Vietnam, Timor, Thailand, the Philippines, Malaysia and Indonesia will compete in the race with BEATRICE A LAJAWA from Malaysia as referee. Down Hill Event will be held at the same ground on 14 December with the participation of seventeen cyclists from Indo-

nesia, Malaysia, the Philippines, Singapore, Thailand, Vietnam and Myanmar.

Road Race Event will be flagged off at Leinli Bridge at 9 am on 15, 16, 17 and 18 December and end at the Clock Tower in Lewe after passing through Tatkon and Nay Pyi Taw Pynmana.

Ninety-seven cyclists—66 men and 31

women from different countries will take part in the Road Race.

Cyclists from different countries will compete in the individual 50 km-race and 30-km race on 15 December. Men's teams representing different



countries will take part in the 100-m race on 16 December while women's teams will compete in the long-range 128-km race and men's teams in the long-range 163-km race on 17 December. Matsukura Nobuhiro from Japan will act as referee at the races.

Cyclists from Indonesia, Malaysia, the Philip-

can accommodate up to 3936 guests.

Rooms are expected to be available after the opening ceremony of the 27th SEA Games and to be full again for the night of

pinis, Thailand, Vietnam and Myanmar will take part in the BMX Event on 19 December with Max Mager

Regarding accommodation at hotels, over 4000 rooms have already been booked so far by local and foreign visitors, according to the Myanmar Hoteliers Association.— NLM

from Singapore as referee.

Ko Myo (Shwe Paukkan) Photo: Ko Ko Nay



PERSPECTIVES

Friday, 6 December, 2013

Glorify the country with sports

Sports play a leading role in uplifting the glory of a country. Not only the rich countries but also the poor countries are capable of glorifying their countries with sports success. Anybody can participate in sports events, regardless of the races, the religions, the poor and the rich.

Winning a sports event doesn't mean that the country gets individual achievement. Success of a sportsperson is the national achievement which can bring the glory to the country. Brazil was globally known by the achievement of world's famous footballer Pele. World's fastest runner of Jamaica Usain Bolt, Filipino professional boxer Pacquiao, US swimmer Michael Phelps could promote the glories of their countries. That is why, sports success can glorify its people and the country.

Myanmar men's and women's Chinlone teams secured first two gold medals in the 27th SEA Games in the events of 4th December in Nay Pyi Taw Wunna Theikdhi. The 27th SEA Games feature 33 sports events including Chinlone and football.

Like the Chinlone sport, all Myanmar athletes need to compete in their respective sports events with highest winning spirits. Tactics and winning spirits are of great importance. Combination of training and efforts can enable the athletes to win their opponents. All sportspersons are urged to bring the glory to the people and the country by winning every sports event.

Union Commerce Minister attends EIF Ministerial Breakfast Meeting

NAY PYI TAW, 5 Dec—Union Minister for Commerce U Win Myint attended EIF (Enhanced Integrated Framework) Ministerial Breakfast Meeting at Ayodya Resort Hotel in Bali in Indonesia yesterday morning.

At the meeting, they discussed assistance for Least Developed Countries under the arrangement of EIF and experience of EIF process in Brunei, Laos and Liberia.

The Union minister elaborated that Myanmar joined EIF in 2013 April.

Myanmar will actively participate in EIF process for enhancement of trade and investment.

Next, the Union minister attended the World Trade Organization conference and the ceremony to allow Yemen to join it.—MNA



Union Minister U Win Myint attends EIF (Enhanced Integrated Framework) Ministerial Breakfast Meeting at Ayodya Resort Hotel in Bali in Indonesia.—MNA



President of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar U Thein Sein speaking at the luncheon.—MNA

Myanmar affirms support ...

(from page 1)

presence of the two Presidents. Union Minister U Wunna Maung Lwin and Secretary Albert F. Del Rosario of the Department of Foreign Affairs of the Philippines signed an agreement on visa exemption for ordinary passport holders between Myanmar

and the Philippines. Union Minister U Myint Hlaing and Secretary Proceso Alcala of the Department of Agriculture also signed a MoU on cooperation in food security and agriculture sector between the Agriculture Department of the Philippines and the Ministry of Agriculture and Irrigation of Myanmar. Union Minister U Zeyar Aung and Secretary Carlos Jericho L. Petilla of the Department of Energy inked a bilateral agreement on boosting cooperation in renewable energy sector. Deputy Minister U Ye Htut and Secretary Herminio B. Coloma of the Presidential Communication Operations Office signed a MoU on cooperation in information sector.

Likewise, Myanmar Ambassador to the Philippines U Ye Myint Aung and Undersecretary Ponciano C. Manalo of the Department of Trade and Industry, and President of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar Federation of Chambers of Commerce

and Industry U Win Aung and President of Philippine Chambers of Commerce and Industry Mr. Miguel B. Varela signed a MoU of cooperation in trade and investment and an agreement between the two federations.

Then, Union Minister Dr Daw Myat Myat Ohn Khin presented relief supplies for storm-stricken regions.

Afterwards, the Philippine President reaffirmed support for Myanmar's reform process at the joint press conference and voiced to cooperate in a wide range of sectors including education, health, human resources development, economic and agriculture sectors. He expressed thanks for Myanmar's aid assistance to storm and earthquake victims of the Philippines.

In his remarks, President U Thein Sein also expressed thanks to the government and people of the Philippines for their support for Myanmar's sweeping reforms moving towards a democracy and reiterated the government's assurance to

continue the reform process. He called for further bilateral cooperation in the areas of agriculture, forestry, tourism, culture, education, transport, technology, trade and investment. He voiced Myanmar's support for the peaceful settlement of disputes between fellow ASEAN members concerned and the People's Republic of China through series of negotiations, making a pledge to actively participate in the works for full implementation of the Declaration on the Conduct of Parties in the South China Sea while taking ASEAN's Chair. The President expressed deepest sympathy of Myanmar government and its people to the typhoon victims of the Philippines.

Next, the Philippine President hosted a luncheon to the President and delegation members at Aguinaldo Hall of the Palace. Before the luncheon, the two Presidents extended greetings and made wishes.

At 9.30 am LST, President U Thein Sein and party laid wreaths at Dr. Jose Rizal Monument in the Rizal Park.

Myanmar and the Philippines started the establishment of bilateral diplomatic ties since 1956. The Philippines was ranked fifteen on the list of 32 countries making investments in 12 economic sectors of Myanmar last year.—MNA

U Ye Myint Aung presents Credentials to President of the Philippines

NAY PYI TAW, 6 Dec—U Ye Myint Aung, Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar to the Republic of the Philippines, presented his Credentials to Benigno S. Aquino III, President of the Republic of the Philippines, on 2 December 2013, in Manila.—MNA

NATIONAL

Vice-President Dr Sai Mauk Kham receives South African guests

NAY PYI TAW, 5 Dec— Vice-President Dr Sai Mauk Kham received a delegation led by Mr. Ebrahim Esmal Ebrahim, Deputy Minister of International Relations and Cooperation of South Africa at the Credentials Hall of the Presidential Palace, here, this afternoon.

At the call, both sides had a cordial discussion on further strengthening relations between the two countries, investment opportunities and economic matters.

Present on the occasion together with the Vice-President were Deputy Minister for Foreign Affairs U Thant Kyaw and officials.

The visiting Deputy Minister of South Africa was accompanied by South African Ambassador to Myanmar Ms. Robina Marks.—MNA



Vice-President Dr Sai Mauk Kham receives Mr. Ebrahim Esmal Ebrahim, Deputy Minister of International Relations and Cooperation of South Africa.—MNA

Senior General Min Aung Hlaing meets services ...

(from page 16)

The Senior General presented gifts for the services personnel and their families, Daw Kyu Kyu Hla, wife of the Senior General, cash assistance for station maternal and child welfare associations.

Adjutant-General Lt-Gen Khin Zaw Oo presented sports gear to them.

Then, the Senior General and party cordially greeted those attendees.

The wife of the Senior General and party, accompanied by the wife of Rakhine State chief minister, offered flowers, water, lights and golden robe to Maha Muni Pagoda in Kyauktaw and signed the visitor's book.

They went to Shittoung Pagoda in MraukU where they donated flowers, water and lights to the pagoda and paid homage to Kokkanthein stupa.—Myawady

Senior General Min Aung Hlaing meeting with officers, other ranks and their families from Kyauktaw station.—MNA

Union FM felicitates Finnish counterpart

NAY PYI TAW, 5 Dec— U Wunna Maung Lwin, Union Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Republic of the Union of My-

anmar, has sent a message of felicitations to Mr. Erkki Sakari Tuomioja, Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Finland on the

occasion of the Independence Day of the Republic of Finland, which falls on 6 December 2013.

MNA

EASI Travel Visa Card introduced

YANGON, 5 Dec— Visa Card Co Ltd and CB Bank introduced EASI Travel Visa Card in Myanmar today.

No need to worry about bringing together large sums of money EASI Travel Visa card holders can travel round foreign countries without as EASI Travel Visa cards offer ultimate security.

It can be used for overseas transactions anywhere Visa is accepted and at ATMs worldwide. Besides, it gives online service to card holders and can hold up to three currencies—USD, Euro and SGD.

Those interested persons are to give K 8000 for joining fees to purchase application forms at CB Bank (headquarters and branch-

es) and CB Bank Exchange Counters. Cards are available in five days after application. Cards come into operation 24 hours after cardholders receive them.

Launching EASI Travel Visa cards is for the sake of public convenience.

Card holders may dial 951378905 or Call Centre (Ph: 1874) if found any difficulties.—MNA



Myanma Airways to operate charter flights during SEA Games

NAY PYI TAW, 5 Dec— Myanma Airways has arranged to fly business charter, sightseeing charter and

package tour charter from Nay Pyi Taw, Yangon and Mandalay (Chanmyathazi) Airports with the use of Cessna Grand Caravan 208 B aircrafts purchased from the United States. The small aircrafts can carry 11 passengers with a fare of K 800,000 or US\$ 800 per hour as special rate during the SEA Games. There is

a plan to operate regular routes in December and those wishing to enquire about charter flights are to contact Ph- 01-374874, 01-370030, 09-5371589, 09-43039158 and 09-43039062 in Yangon, 067-411433 and 09-8303708 in Nay Pyi Taw and 02-36222, 09-2022989 and 02-36221 in Mandalay.—MNA

Request to spectators at 27th SEA Games

1. Republic of the Union of Myanmar will hold the 27th Southeast Asian Games commencing 11 to 22 December, 2013.
2. Successful holding of the 27th SEA Games can help Myanmar not only to improve its image globally but also to raise its national pride.
3. Therefore, we would like to request the public to stick to the following points in order to hold the Games successfully.
 - (a) Show culture, traditions and customs of friendly and hospitability Myanmar people.
 - (b) Respect the faiths, cultures, traditions and customs of visiting nations and visitors.
 - (c) Behave as civilized citizens and show a sense of fairness and spirit of sporting while enjoying the games.
 - (d) Cooperate with officials concerned and inform them of the bad behaviors committed by those under the influence of drugs or alcohol.
 - (e) Willingly and patiently accept and follow the security measures being conducted by security members and officials concerned for the sake of public security.
 - (f) Join a queue at the designated areas to enter or exit the stadiums and gymnasiums and take the desig-

4. We would like to request the spectators who will throng into stadiums to see the opening and closing ceremonies of the SEA Games not to bring the following items along with them
 - (a) Weapons and ammunition which are potentially harmful
 - (b) Various kinds of items that can be harmful and can cause annoyance to the spectators
 - (c) Whistles and speakers making annoying sound.
 - (d) Inflammable things such as sprays, spirits, etc.
 - (e) Laser pointers and devices producing intense illuminations that can hurt vision
 - (f) Materials that can produce foul smell
 - (g) Self-protection items such as Pepper spray, tear gas, etc.
 - (h) Pet animals and other animals.
 - (i) Large size placards, hats, umbrellas and other personal goods.
 - (j) Large numbers and amounts of food.

- (k) Flags of other nations except flags of SEA Games countries, placards, posters and documents that are not concerning with the Games.
- (l) Packets of betel nut and things that can make the environment dirty.
5. Security forces will be stationed and CCTV cameras and modern security devices installed at the sporting Venues for ensuring public safety. We would like to urge the people to make cooperation in the security measures.

Hotline Phone Numbers:
 Nay Pyi Taw-067 8114080, 067 550200, 067 550202, 067 550333, 199; Yangon - 067-8104078, 01 2304401, 01 2304402, 01-2304403, 01 230199, 199; Mandalay-067 8104077, 02 36871, 02 36869, 02 39635, 02 61444, 199; Patheingyi (Ngwehsaung)-067 8104077, 042 25822, 042 21051, 042 23844, 042 40180, 199

Leading Committee for Holding the 27th Southeast Asian Games

Assistance provided to AIDS patients on its commemorative day

MANDALAY, 5 Dec—Mandalay Region Maternal and Child Welfare Supervisory Committee provided assistance to AIDS patients at its office on 2 December in commemoration of the World AIDS Day.

It was attended by Patron of Region Women's Affairs Organization and Maternal and Child Welfare Supervisory Committee Daw Myat Ngwe and members, Head of Mandalay Region Health Department Dr Moe Swe, members of District and Township MCWAs and 122 patients.

Upper Myanmar AIDS/STD Control Officer Dr Kyaw Soe explained



treatment for the patients with the use of ART medicine.

Region MCWSC

donated K 5000 each to 122 patients and the chairperson and party of Mandalay Region MCWSC assistance

provided by Region Red Cross Committee to the patients individually.

Kyemon-Thiha Ko Ko (Mandalay)

TRANSPORTATION

Plan to repair Chanmyathazi Airport for use of light aircrafts

MANDALAY, 5 Dec—Department of Civil Aviation plans to renovate Chanmyathazi Airport, located along Yangon-Mandalay Highway in Mandalay, for the use of light aircrafts and military aircrafts.

The departure and arrival lounges, main building and runway of the airport will be repaired. On completion, aircrafts will ply flights from Mandalay to the towns facilitated with airports in the central area of Myanmar. As the traffic rules exhibition has already been completed in the airport, the bushes and

sanitation has been cleared, said an officials of Myanma Airways.

Mandalay International Airport was opened in Tada U in the year of 2000. From then on, any aircraft did not land on Chanmyathazi Airport. Thus, the airport has been covered with grasses and bushes. It will be kept reservation. At present, two 12-seat aircrafts have been bought. Then, the aircrafts will be based at Chanmyathazi Airport to ply their routes as of early 2014.

Kyemon-Thiha Ko Ko (Mandalay)

Relief items given to victims in Katha Township



KATHA, 5 Dec—A ceremony to present relief items to 28 victims was held at the hall of Basic Education Middle School Branch in Thabayagon Village of Tokkyi Village-

Oxygen concentrator donated to Tonzang Hospital

TONZANG, 5 Dec—People from Tonzang Township who are now residing in Iowa State of the United States of America donated one set of oxygen concentrator and related equipment to Tonzang Township Hospital on 2 December morning.

On behalf of the wellwishers, Rev U Sawng Lyan Pong explained the purpose of donations and handed over one oxygen concentrator and related equipment worth K 12 million through Assistant Surgeon Dr Thein Min Win.

Kyemon-Zo Hae Hsa (IPRD)

tract in Katha Township on 3 December. Sagaing Region Hluttaw representative U Sein Tun made a speech. Chairman of Township Management Committee U Zaw Min Htaik explained functions of Rural Development Department and Head of Township Information and Public Relations Department Daw Phyo Mon Mon Tun taking census for the whole nation.

Next, officials presented construction materials, K 54000 each for three-day foods of rice, sarongs, blankets, T-shirt, towel, aluminium pots, bowls and soaps.

Under the arrangement of the Sagaing Region Government, Relief and Resettlement Department distributed the relief items to the victims.

The victims moved their property from the landslided Thanbayagon Village.

Kyemon-District IPRD

Books Show held at Kyauktada Township IPRD



Students at book and photo shows.

YANGON, 5 Dec—Street in Kyauktada Township of Yangon West District on 4 December morning.

At first, Deputy Commissioner U Nay Win Aung of Yangon West District General



CULTURAL ACTIVITIES

Shan New Year celebrated on grand scale

Administration Department, Deputy Director U Myint Swe of Yangon Region Information and Public Relations Department and U Maung Maung Oo from Great Wall Traditional Medicine Industry cut the ribbon to open the show.

The deputy commissioner of Yangon West District GAD extended greetings.

Director (Production) U Aye Kywe of IPRD and the deputy commissioner of Yangon West District Deputy Commissioner presented certificates of honour to the wellwishers.

The departmental personnel and students observed the show.

Kyemon-Shwe Taing Lwin

MONGHSAT, 5 Dec—Organized by Monghsat Township Shan Literature and Culture Committee of Shan State (East), the Shan New Year celebration was held for 2008 Shan era at the precinct of Myoma Monastery in Monghsat on 3 December morning.

Shan State Hluttaw representative U Sai Khattaya, Brig-Gen Aung Zaw Aye of the local station and the commander of District Police Force formally opened the ceremony and Shan State Hluttaw representative U Sai Lon made a speech. Responsible persons presented the brief history

of emergence of Shan New Year celebration in Shan and Myanmar languages.

Officials gave awards to winners in the golf tourney, badminton contest and volleyball tournament in commemoration of the Shan New Year Day.

At 10.30 am, meals were offered to members of the Sangha. Later, those present were served with lunch.

During the period of Shan New Year Day from 1 to 3 December, entertainments, Shan traditional dances and Shan music band were presented to the local people.

Kyemon-Than Zaw (IPRD)

REGIONAL

Indian capital witnesses record voter turnout in assembly polls

NEW DELHI, 5 Dec — The Indian capital on Wednesday witnessed a record voter turnout — 66 percent — in the assembly polls in which more than 10 million residents were eligible to exercise their franchise to choose a new government for the state.

Such was the voter turnout that the country's independent Election Commission extended the polling by nearly two hours.

"It has been a good turnout all over Delhi," Chief Electoral Officer Vijay Dev told the media.

The voter turnout during the last assembly polls in Delhi was a little over 56 percent. Local TV channels beamed footage of Congress chief Sonia Gandhi and Delhi Chief Minister Sheila Dikshit among the early voters.

In fact, this is for the first time that Delhi witnessed a three-party contest in the crucial elections

— the ruling Congress party led by three-time 75-year-old Chief Minister Sheila Dikshit, the main opposition Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) led by Dr Harshvardan, and a new anti-graft Aam Admi Party (Common Man's Party) led by former civil servant Arvind Kejriwal.

While the Congress is seeking a fourth consecutive term in power, the BJP aims to dethrone it in the 70-member assembly. But, the new entrant, AAP, has also emerged as a crucial player in the polls which could well be a barometer to measure how the electorate may vote during the next general elections, barely six months away.

The results for the polls will be out on Sunday.

Though both the Congress and the BJP have ruled out the AAP being a serious contender in the hotly contested elections, political experts say that the



India's ruling Congress party chief Sonia Gandhi shows her finger with indelible ink after casting her vote at a polling booth in New Delhi, India, on 4 Dec, 2013.

XINHUA

first-time party — born out of a strong anti-corruption movement led by veteran Gandhian Anna Hazare — could upset their calculations. "Over 800 candidates are contesting for the 70-member Delhi Assembly. The AAP has fielded its candidates in all 70 constituencies. It is likely that the AAP may get at least 10 to 15 seats which may upset the calculations of both the Congress and the BJP,"

said political analyst Prof SK Gupta.

The Congress is assuring "development," the BJP has promised to lower electricity costs and bring down rising vegetable prices if voted to power. The AAP has gone a step further, saying it will constitute a citizens' ombudsman, apart from cutting electricity prices and providing free water to residents.

Xinhua

Tobacco production doubled in China

BEIJING, 5 Dec — Cigarette production in China has almost doubled since the nation signed a landmark international agreement to curb tobacco, meaning that the nation is only paying lip service to tobacco control legislation, according to a new report.

The report, Tobacco Control in China from A Civil Society Perspective 2013, compiled and released by the Beijing-based Thinktank Research Centre for Health Development, found that about 2.175 trillion cigarettes were produced in the 12 months to October.

In 2002, before China signed the World Health Organization (WHO)

Framework Convention on Tobacco Control in 2003, cigarette production was 1.75 trillion, but it rose to 2.58 trillion annually by 2012.

Wang Ke'an, director of the research centre, told the *Global Times* that while the government signed the convention and vowed to control tobacco, the nation has since fallen far behind many other signatory members. In a 2012 WHO assessment report, China was only awarded two of a possible 16 points for its smoking ban in public places, namely schools and hospitals, while its curb on tobacco advertising won no credits.

The tobacco industry in

China is a large contributor to fiscal revenue.

In 2012, the tobacco industry paid a total of 864.9 billion yuan (\$141.9 billion) in taxes and handed 716.7 billion yuan to the State treasury. Eight percent of the national tax income was generated by the industry, people.com.cn reported in June, 2012.

Some local governments even encourage residents to develop the tobacco industry as a way to contribute to the local economy. In Enshi, Hubei Province, local government treats the tobacco industry, which has generated 5.1 billion yuan for tobacco growers, as a mainstay of supporting the poor.—Xinhua



File photo shows dishes at Japanese restaurant Edo Kappo "Yone-mura" in Tokyo's Ginza District. "Washoku" traditional Japanese cuisine was added to UNESCO's Intangible Cultural Heritage list on 4 Dec, 2013. KYODO NEWS

Gov't, ruling bloc agree on stimulus package to ease tax hike impact

TOKYO, 5 Dec — Prime Minister Shinzo Abe's government and the ruling bloc agreed on Thursday on an economic stimulus package worth 18.6 trillion yen in a bid to avoid a sharp economic downturn following the planned 3-percentage-point sales tax hike to 8 percent next April.

The central government is expected to spend 5.5 trillion yen of the package, centering on measures to promote reconstruction work in areas hit hard by the March 2011 quake-tsunami disaster and new infrastructure investment ahead of the 2020 Tokyo Olympics.

The latest stimulus package, which will also entail local government spending for public works projects and grants to support smaller firms' financing, would be as large as the one worth around 20 trillion yen mapped out in January to boost Japan's lethargic economy, which was suffering from chronic

deflation and a stronger yen.

Abe's government has decided to take steps that will have an immediate effect, such as public works projects and provision of benefits to households, estimating the new package will create at least 250,000 jobs and boost Japan's gross domestic product by around 1 percentage point.

"I believe we can ensure a path toward the end of deflation and economic revitalization by swiftly implementing the economic stimulus package," Abe said during a policy meeting between the government and the ruling camp at the prime minister's office earlier Thursday.

Most of the policy proposals in the package, however, do not break new ground, casting doubt on whether the stimulus plan can prevent the tax hike from hurting Japan's economy, which has been steadily recovering on the back of "Abenomics" for the past year.—Kyodo News

Cambodia's top diplomat hails Sino-Cambodian ties

PHNOM PENH, 5 Dec — Cambodian Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Hor Namhong on Wednesday highly spoke of good relations and cooperation between Cambodia and China in all rounds of cooperation.

While meeting with Gu Xiulian, president of the China-Cambodia Friendship Association, Hor Namhong said the relations between the two countries have become stronger and stronger thanks to frequent exchange of visits by leaders of the countries.

He thanked the Chinese government and people for providing a large amount of aid for Cambodia's social and economic development, particularly the development of roads, bridges, electricity facilities and irrigation system. He said China was the first country that has invested in the development of infrastructure and hydroelectric dams in Cambodia.

Xinhua



A man and a child are seen in front of a vintage locomotive at Central South University, in Changsha, capital of central China's Hunan Province, on 4 Dec, 2013. 3 featured locomotives were displayed here on Wednesday, respectively representing the 3 phases of China's train development history.—XINHUA

Malaysia's ruling UMNO party holds annual assembly

KUALA LUMPUR, 5 Dec — Malaysia's ruling United Malays National Organization (UMNO) kicked off its annual assembly Thursday as its president and Prime Minister Najib Razak urged the party to reform in order to remain as the ruling party in the country.

Strengthening the economy of the Malay and other indigenous groups, which make up the majority of the total population of 28 million, was listed as priority in Najib's transformation plans for UMNO. "Considering the fact that 67.9 percent of the nation's population is

made up of them, enhancing their economy should be the primary agenda of the nation as it is pointless to have a developed nation where the majority are neglected," he said in the opening address.

Najib also urged the party to come up with young leaders, develop party machinery and introduce performance-based system.

Najib's multi-racial ruling coalition, dominated by the Malay based UMNO, extended its uninterrupted rule in the country since independence in the May general election despite the worst showing ever.—Xinhua

ADVERTISEMENT & GENERAL

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE**MV ESM CREMONA VOY NO (086)**

Consignees of cargo carried on MV ESM CREMONA VOY NO (086) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 6.12.2013 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of M.I.P where it will lie at the consignee's risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

Damaged cargo will be surveyed daily from 8 am to 11:20 am and 12 noon to 4 pm to Claims Day now declared as the third day after final discharge of cargo from the Vessel.

No claims against this vessel will be admitted after the Claims Day.

**SHIPPING AGENCY DEPARTMENT
MYANMA PORT AUTHORITY
AGENT FOR: M/S ORINET OVERSEAS
CONTAINER LINES**

Phone No: 256908/378316/376797

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE**MV KOTA RAJIN VOY NO (827)**

Consignees of cargo carried on MV KOTA RAJIN VOY NO (827) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 6.12.2013 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of H.P.T where it will lie at the consignee's risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

Damaged cargo will be surveyed daily from 8 am to 11:20 am and 12 noon to 4 pm to Claims Day now declared as the third day after final discharge of cargo from the Vessel.

No claims against this vessel will be admitted after the Claims Day.

**SHIPPING AGENCY DEPARTMENT
MYANMA PORT AUTHORITY
AGENT FOR: M/S ADVANCE CONTAINER
LINES**

Phone No: 256908/378316/376797

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE**MV E.R TURKU VOY NO (032)**

Consignees of cargo carried on MV E.R TURKU VOY NO (032) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 6.12.2013 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of A.W.P.T where it will lie at the consignee's risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

Damaged cargo will be surveyed daily from 8 am to 11:20 am and 12 noon to 4 pm to Claims Day now declared as the third day after final discharge of cargo from the Vessel.

No claims against this vessel will be admitted after the Claims Day.

**SHIPPING AGENCY DEPARTMENT
MYANMA PORT AUTHORITY
AGENT FOR: M/S EVER GREEN SHIPPING**

Phone No: 256908/378316/376797

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE**MV SCL ANDISA VOY NO ()**

Consignees of cargo carried on MV SCL ANDISA VOY NO () are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 6.12.2013 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of M.I.T.T where it will lie at the consignee's risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

Damaged cargo will be surveyed daily from 8 am to 11:20 am and 12 noon to 4 pm to Claims Day now declared as the third day after final discharge of cargo from the Vessel.

No claims against this vessel will be admitted after the Claims Day.

**SHIPPING AGENCY DEPARTMENT
MYANMA PORT AUTHORITY
AGENT FOR: M/S NIRINT SHIPPING**

Phone No: 256916/256919/256921

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE**MV KULNATEE VOY NO ()**

Consignees of cargo carried on MV KULNATEE VOY NO () are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 6.12.2013 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of S.P.W(7) where it will lie at the consignee's risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

Damaged cargo will be surveyed daily from 8 am to 11:20 am and 12 noon to 4 pm to Claims Day now declared as the third day after final discharge of cargo from the Vessel.

No claims against this vessel will be admitted after the Claims Day.

**SHIPPING AGENCY DEPARTMENT
MYANMA PORT AUTHORITY
AGENT FOR: M/S KULNATEE SHIPPING**

Phone No: 256916/256919/256921

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE**MV BANGSAOTONG VOY NO (158)**

Consignees of cargo carried on MV BANGSAOTONG VOY NO (158) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 6.12.2013 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of A.W.P.T(3) where it will lie at the consignee's risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

Damaged cargo will be surveyed daily from 8 am to 11:20 am and 12 noon to 4 pm to Claims Day now declared as the third day after final discharge of cargo from the Vessel.

No claims against this vessel will be admitted after the Claims Day.

**SHIPPING AGENCY DEPARTMENT
MYANMA PORT AUTHORITY
AGENT FOR: M/S WONGSAMUT OCEAN
SHIPPING CO LTD.**

Phone No: 256916/256919/256921



A dancer takes part in the parade to celebrate the 479th anniversary of the founding of San Francisco de Quito, in the Bicentennial Park, in Quito, capital of Ecuador, on 30 Nov, 2013.
XINHUA

China calls for greater role of UNGA in shaping post-2015 agenda

UNITED NATIONS, 5 Dec — China on Wednesday called on the United Nations General Assembly (UNGA) to play a greater role in shaping the agenda of global development beyond 2015.

Wang Min, China's deputy permanent representative to the UN, made the statement as he addressed the 68th session of the UNGA on the theme of "revitalization of the work of our General Assembly."

Wang noted that given the complex global

situation, the international community has high hopes for the United Nations and particularly the UNGA, the world organization's preeminent deliberative body.

"Member states, especially the developing countries, hope that the UNGA will further strengthen its authority and efficiency, in order to actively respond to the international community's expectations for it and better implement its mandate entrusted in the UN Charter," he said.

The UNGA, Wang said, should focus on discussing and dealing with major issues that are of common concerns of member states, especially those involving the vital interest of the developing countries.

"The UNGA should increase efforts and attention to the development issue, so as to play a greater role in realizing Millennium Development Goals, shaping post-2015 development agenda and promoting sustainable development," Wang said.—Xinhua

Israeli-Palestinian talks best way to achieve two-state solution

UNITED NATIONS, 5 Dec — UN Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon on Wednesday reiterated his belief that "negotiations between the Israeli and Palestinian sides are the best way to achieve the two-state solution," and expressed his support for the ongoing talks.

Ban made the statement while meeting with Israeli Foreign Minister Avigdor Lieberman.

During the discussion, he "stressed the importance for the parties to create the conditions conducive to a resumption of meaningful negotiations, and

encouraged Israel to take steps to ease the situation in Gaza," UN spokesman Martin Nesirky told reporters after the meeting.

The two-state solution, widely backed by the international community, means a secure Israel to live in peace with an independent Palestinian State.

Ban and the Israeli foreign minister also exchanged views on the regional situation, Nesirky said.

Israeli and Palestinian peace negotiators held a new round of talks two days before US Secretary of State John Kerry's

return to the region slated for Wednesday, a well-informed Palestinian source told Xinhua Tuesday.

Chief Palestinian negotiator Saeb Erekat and his Israeli counterpart Tzipi Livni held another round of direct talks without achieving any progress due to the sticky question of Israeli settlement, the source said.

So far, more than 20 rounds of talks have already been held between the two sides since late July after a three-year halt. However, the talks have failed to achieve any substantial progress.

Xinhua

France needs Africa to bolster growth, says minister

PARIS, 5 Dec — Struggling to accelerate an ailing growth, France looked to prosperous African economies to inject further dynamism in domestic businesses, French Finance Minister Pierre Moscovici said on Wednesday. At the opening ceremony of an economic

forum on France-African partnership, Moscovici pointed that the eurozone's second largest economy "needs Africa" where growth rate expanded by 5 percent per year over the past decade, to support its wane growth handicapped by an alarming

unemployment.

"Africa is not, can not be the recipient of our support to development... It must be a speech of truth: Africa leads us. Its dynamism supports us. Its vitality stimulates us," the minister told the gathering.

Xinhua

ENTERTAINMENT

Boy band One Direction makes chart history with third No 1 album debut

LOS ANGELES, 5 Dec — British boy band One Direction made chart history on Wednesday as its third album debuted at No 1 on the weekly US Billboard 200 album chart, the only group to have its first three albums top the chart in opening week sales.

The quintet's "Midnight Memories" sold 546,000 copies, according to figures from Nielsen SoundScan.

The group's first album, "Up All Night" and second record "Take Me Home," both released in

2012, also debuted at No 1 on the Billboard 200 chart, but with smaller opening week sales.

One Direction, comprised of singers Harry Styles, Zayn Malik, Liam Payne, Louis Tomlinson and Niall Horan, was formed on the UK reality singing television show "The X Factor" in 2010 and has gone on to conquer the United States with songs such as "What Makes You Beautiful" and "Story of My Life."

The band's music is targeted at a young audi-

ence, and its fans are mainly teenage girls, dubbed "Directioners." The group has more than 16 million Twitter followers and 22 million Facebook fans.

One Direction's big opening week marks an increase in overall album sales for the week ending 1 December, due to the shopping boost during the US Thanksgiving holiday weekend.

Total album sales were 8.6 million for the week, up 14 percent from the comparable week in 2012, according to Billboard.—Reuters



One Direction poses backstage with one of the two awards and they won at the 41st American Music Awards in Los Angeles, California on 24 Nov, 2013.—REUTERS

Genre-bending, 'unexpected' films top Sundance 2014 lineup

LOS ANGELES, 5 Dec—Genre-bending films dominated the 2014 lineup announced on Wednesday for the US feature film competition at the Sundance Film Festival, the top US festival for independent cinema.

The competition will showcase 16 films spanning serious and comedic efforts, with many fusing together the traditional cinematic conventions of different genres.

"They kind of struck us as surprising, a lot of the storylines this year, especially in competition. A lot of them were unexpected," John Cooper, director of the Sundance film festival, told Reuters.

Examples of films that cross genres include the zombie romance "Life After Beth," written and directed by Jeff Baena and

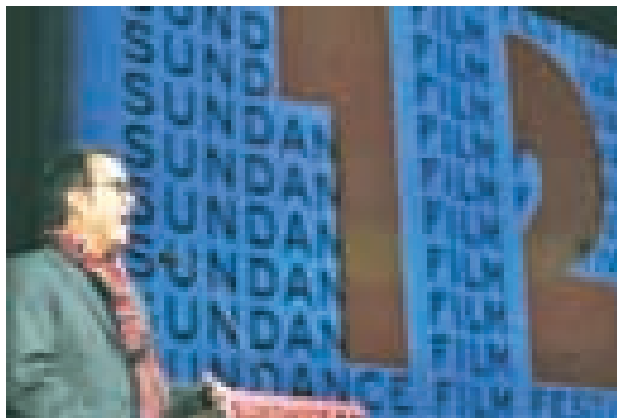
starring Dane DeHaan and Aubrey Plaza, and "Jamie Marks is Dead," a ghost comedy by writer-director Carter Smith.

"Life After Beth" is a really innovative approach of using some of the

conventions of a zombie film but putting it in an indie young love story," said Trevor Groth, the director of programming for the film festival started by actor and director Robert Redford in 1978. Some of the selected

US drama contenders also turn the spotlight on the plight of people in difficult jobs, like the a guard at Guantanamo Bay in "Camp X-Ray" starring Kristen Stewart, or a Somali fisherman turned pirate in filmmaker Cutter Hodierne's "Fishing Without Nets."

"These are stories that people know that are accessible. We always tell people to make the movies that they know, and there's such diversity in what that is," Cooper said. Both Cooper and Groth also noted a rise in the use of comedy to lighten the drama, spurred by both the critical and commercial success of last year's "Silver Linings Playbook," which landed key Oscar nominations and a best actress Oscar win for lead star Jennifer Lawrence.—Reuters



Sundance Film Festival director John Cooper welcomes the audience before the opening night premiere of the documentary "The Queen Of Versailles" to begin the annual festival in Park City, Utah on 19 Jan, 2012.

REUTERS

Young, Plant and friends pay tribute to "Jimi Hendrix of acoustic guitar"

WASHINGTON, 5 Dec—A host of musicians headed by Led Zeppelin frontman Robert Plant on Tuesday night celebrated the life and work of Bert Jansch, the

late Scottish guitarist who influenced generations of players from Neil Young to Johnny Marr with his stew of blues, folk and jazz.

On a London stage

decorated to look like Les Cousins, the Soho folk club where Jansch held court in the 1960s, they played his songs and others that had inspired him, and reminisced about "a magical man, an occasionally shambolic man," in the words of Martin Simpson.

Jansch died in October 2011 of lung cancer at the age of 67 and Tuesday would have been his 70th birthday.

If he never achieved huge popular fame to match his talent, his standing amongst his peers was evident in a Royal Festival Hall line-up that was a

virtual Who's Who of British folk, among them Ralph McTell, Donovan and members of Pentangle, the folk-jazz group with whom he found his greatest commercial success.

Neil Young, who once described Jansch as the Jimi Hendrix of acoustic guitar, was not present in body but appeared on a large screen in a specially-recorded video in which he played "Needle of Death", Jansch's tale of heroin addiction that Young has acknowledged as the inspiration for his own classic "Needle and the Damage Done".

Reuters



Cast members Joaquin Phoenix (L) and Scarlett Johansson (R) arrive for a red carpet event for the movie "Her" at the Rome Film Festival, on 10 Nov, 2013.—REUTERS

'Her' wins National Board of Review best 2013 film award

NEW YORK, 5 Dec— "Her," a story about a man who falls in love with a computer operating system, on Wednesday won the National Board of Review award for 2013 best film of the year and best director, the second major film awards in the run-up to the Oscars.

Director Spike Jonze's "Her," which will be released in selected US theaters later this month, stars Joaquin Phoenix as a withdrawn writer in Los Angeles in the quirky love story.

"Spike Jonze is one of the most talented and visionary filmmakers working today," said Annie Schulhof, the president of the National Board of Review, a 100-year-old US based group of movie industry watchers and film professionals.

"In 'Her' he explores the age-old themes of love and human connection in a completely fresh and innovative way. It is an out-

standing achievement that is sure to become a new classic," she added in a statement.

Bruce Dern was named best actor for his portrayal as an ornery old man convinced he has won a fortune in Alexander Payne's "Nebraska," and Emma Thompson picked up the best actress accolade for her turn as author PL Travers, the creator of "Mary Poppins," in "Saving Mr Banks."

Comedic actor Will Forte, best known for his roles on the television sketch show "Saturday Night Live," won the best supporting actor prize for playing Dern's patient son in "Nebraska."

Oscar-winner Octavia Spencer was named best supporting actress for "Fruitvale Station," about the real-life story of a young black man shot to death by a white transit policeman.

Reuters



Members of Led Zeppelin are pictured on the balcony of the Kennedy Centre as 2012 honorees in Washington, on 2 December, 2012. (L-R) John Paul Jones, Robert Plant and Jimmy Page were among seven who were honoured this year.—REUTERS

SPORTS

Suarez fires Liverpool as Arsenal, Chelsea, City win



Manchester City's Sergio Aguero (L) challenges West Bromwich Albion's Claudio Jacob during their English Premier League soccer match at the Hawthorns in West Bromwich, central England on 4 Dec, 2013.—REUTERS

LONDON, 5 Dec — Liverpool's Luis Suarez showed his devastating ability to act as a one-man wrecking ball with four goals in a 5-1 demolition of Norwich City as Arsenal's forgotten man Nicklas Bendtner jogged a few memories in the Premier League on Wednesday.

Suarez delivered a dazzling collection of goal-of-the-season contenders at Anfield and Bendtner scored two minutes into his first start in more than two years to help the Premier League leaders beat Hull City 2-0.

Second-placed Chelsea and Manchester City in third came through tight tussles to beat Sunderland and West Bromwich Albion, but

champions Manchester United lost 1-0 at home to Everton to slip 12 points behind the leaders.

While the pressure on United manager David Moyes increased, Tottenham Hotspur eased the stress on boss Andre Villas-Boas by coming from behind to beat Fulham 2-1 in their manager Rene Meulenstein's first game in charge.

Arsenal, with 34 points, stayed four points clear of Chelsea at the top of the table, with Manchester City two adrift in third and Liverpool a point further back in fourth, ahead of Everton on goal difference.

Tottenham moved up to sixth on 24 and Manchester

United dropped to ninth.

Suarez must wish he could play Norwich every week, a team against whom he has now scored 11 goals in his last four Premier League games.

He grabbed a first-half hat-trick including two genuine contenders for goal of the season.

The first, a stunning volley into the top corner from almost 40 metres, was followed by a more modest poacher's effort, before he wowed the home fans further by juggling the ball and cracking in an unstoppable shot from distance.

He completed his personal show-reel with another moment of quality, bending a 25-metre free kick into the top corner, before Norwich pulled a goal back through Bradley Johnson and Raheem Sterling



Arsenal's Nicklas Bendtner celebrates scoring during their English Premier League soccer match against Hull City at the Emirates stadium in London on 4 Dec, 2013.—REUTERS

rounded off the scoring for the hosts.

Arsenal's Bendtner has been little more than a casual observer in their superb start to the season, yet with the transfer window looming, he delivered a timely reminder to Arsene Wenger that he could yet be an able deputy to Olivier Giroud.

Having not started a game since March 2011, Bendtner took just two minutes to etch his name on the scoresheet, rising to meet a Carl Jenkinson cross and slamming a powerful header into the net from four metres out. Mesut Ozil calmed the nerves by finishing from close range two minutes after the restart following some creative gold dust from Aaron Ramsey. The creative firepower that Arsenal have at their disposal seems



Liverpool's Luis Suarez celebrates scoring a goal against Norwich during their English Premier League soccer match at Anfield in Liverpool, northern England, on 4 Dec, 2013.—REUTERS

to be a missing ingredient at Old Trafford where United failed to break down Everton and were picked off by Bryan Oviedo's 86th-minute sucker punch.

Moyes was given a hostile reception from Everton's travelling fans, but the mood turned to jubilation for those clad in blue as left back Oviedo converted Romelu Lukaku's cross from the right. After Moyes had failed to ever get a positive result at Old Trafford, new boss Roberto Martinez picked up three points at the first time of asking, the Toffees' first win at the ground since 1992.

Eden Hazard starred for Chelsea by scoring twice as they edged a seven-goal encounter 4-3 with Frank Lampard and a Phil Bardley own goal the other names on the scoresheet for the visitors.

Manchester City also came out on top by a single goal, beating West Brom 3-2 as they welcomed back captain Vincent Kompany after a two-month injury layoff.

Sergio Aguero opened the scoring on nine minutes and two goals from Yaya Toure, the second a penalty, helped them to a 3-0 lead.

Reuters

Nadal to return to Buenos Aires event after nine years



Rafael Nadal of Spain plays a shot during his exhibition tennis match against Novak Djokovic of Serbia in Buenos Aires on 24 Nov, 2013. REUTERS

Buenos Aires, 5 Dec—World number one Rafael Nadal will play in the Buenos Aires ATP tournament in February for the first time since 2005, the Spaniard said on Wednesday.

The tournament to be held at the Buenos Aires Lawn Tennis Club from 10 to 16 February is part of the Latin American swing of claycourt events which also includes tournaments in Chile, Brazil and Mexico.

"After a time when I was unable to go, this year I'm going to return to the Buenos Aires tournament and I'm excited to play the Copa Claro again," Nadal

said in a video shown at a news conference.

Nadal lost to Argentine Gaston Gaudio, the 2004 French Open champion, in the quarter-final of the 2005 Buenos Aires tournament at the start of a glittering career that has included 13 grand slam titles, eight at Roland Garros.

"We're very happy to have Rafa, to have a world number one playing for the points in Argentina," said tournament director Martin Jaite, who is also his country's Davis Cup captain.

Nadal made his comeback from a long injury layoff at the Vina del Mar tournament in Chile last

February, launching a comeback that took him back to the top of the rankings last month.

He was in Argentina last month for exhibition matches against world number two Novak Djokovic and retired Argentine former number three David Nalbandian's farewell to tennis.

Buenos Aires champion David Ferrer will not be defending his title.

Reuters

Pele not taking part in Cup draw, will be in audience



Soccer great Pele

SAO PAULO, 5 Dec — Pele will not be taking part in Friday's World Cup draw although he will be in the audience, he said on Wednesday, adding that he was worried about landing Brazil in a difficult group.

"President Dilma (Rousseff) suggested that I represent Brazil when it came to pulling the balls out of the pots, which I've done several times before," Brazilian media quoted the former great Brazil striker as saying at an event in Sao Paulo. "I preferred to turn down the offer because I wouldn't feel comfortable in picking out balls which are not favorable to Brazil."

Pele has earned a reputation in Brazil as a "pefrio", literally "cold foot",

although he gave a sarcastic response to a reporter who asked him about it.

"I won five world titles, two with Santos and three with the national team and I scored more than one thousand goals, so you're right, I'm a cold foot," he said.

"I will be there, God willing," Pele added. "I will give interviews, accompany the delegations from abroad and do what is necessary, representing President Dilma."

Reuters

Tiger motivated by Snead, Nicklaus and kids

THOUSAND OAKS, (California), 5 Dec—As Tiger Woods eyes the twilight of a remarkable career, he has his sights on records posted by Jack Nicklaus and Sam Snead and a growing pleasure that his children are starting to understand what he does on the course.

World number one Woods, comfortably the greatest player of his generation, has long targeted the 18 major titles claimed by fellow American Nicklaus and

the 82 career victories piled up on the PGA Tour by the sweet-swinging Snead.

Woods, who celebrates his 38th birthday at the end of this month, trails Nicklaus's record mark by four and Snead's milestone by three.

Yet just as significant for Woods as he contemplates his 'bucket list' of future golfing achievements is the burgeoning knowledge of his two children, daughter Sam and son Charlie, for



Tiger Woods

what he does for a living.

"It's exciting for me to have my two kids now starting to understand what

Daddy does," Woods told Reuters on Wednesday as he prepared for Thursday's opening round of the North-western Mutual World Challenge, which he hosts.

"It was cool for me this year for the first time to have Charlie there to watch me win. He understood it for the first time, that Daddy is always in the gym lifting weights to be able to get the ball out of the rough and out the trees.

Reuters

GENERAL

Vonn resumes training, undecided about racing

LAKE LOUISE, (Alberta), 5 Dec — Olympic downhill champion Lindsey Vonn, who has not competed since suffering a knee injury in February, completed her first World Cup training run at Lake Louise on Wednesday but was undecided about entering Friday's race.

"I love Lake Louise, I'm so confident on this hill. It was the perfect place for me to come back," the American, who tore knee ligaments at the world championships in Schladming, told reporters.

Vonn, who has 14 World Cup race wins at Lake Louise, clocked the 19th fastest time in Wednesday's first practice session, 2.13 behind Spain's Carolina Ruiz-Castillo.

A training crash in mid-November interrupted Vonn's comeback and she was forced out of last weekend's racing on home snow in Beaver Creek, Colorado.



Olympic downhill champion Lindsey Vonn

"Hopefully this weekend will be good. We'll make a decision on Thursday whether I start competing on Friday."

"I was a little bit nervous because it was my first time in a race situation since February so it's been a long time and I'm really happy."

"The knee feels good, it feels stable. We'll play it by ear tomorrow and concentrate on the race."

The girlfriend of

14-times major golf champion Tiger Woods, Vonn insisted several times this season that she would be ready to defend her downhill Olympic title in Sochi in February.

The four-times overall World Cup winner is also three wins short of the record of World Cup victories held by Austria's Annemarie Moser-Proell, a mark she could beat if she made it back to her best level this winter.—Reuters

Ten killed in Nicaraguan gunfight near Honduran border

MANAGUA, 5 Dec — Six suspected robbers and four police officers were killed in a shootout in a remote rural part of northwestern Nicaragua close to the border with Honduras, police said on Wednesday.

The gunfight, one of

the bloodiest to hit Nicaragua this year, occurred in Bocas de Ayapal in the Jinotega department after police and army units ran into a gang carrying out a robbery on a grocery store, police said in a statement.

Authorities have not

yet identified the dead suspects.

Honduras, which has just elected a new president, suffers from the highest murder rate in the world. Levels of deadly violence are far lower in Nicaragua.—Reuters

MYANMAR TV

(6-12-2013, Friday)

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|---|--|
| 6:00 am | (Perliminary) (Women) |
| 1. Paritta By Hilly Region Missionary Sayadaw | 1:00 pm |
| 6:20 am | 18. SEA Games Songs |
| 6:30 am | 19. SEA Games Go For Gold (football) |
| 6:45 am | 20. Sports News |
| 7:00 am | 21. News |
| 7:30 am | 22. Teleplay (SEA Games) |
| 7:45 am | 23. SEA Games Songs |
| 8:00 am | 24. News/Sport News |
| 8:30 am | 25. News |
| 9:00 am | 26. India Drama Series |
| 9:30 am | 27. News/Weather Report |
| 10:00 am | 28. Amazing World |
| 10:30 am | 29. Documentary (SEA Games) |
| 10:50 am | 30. News |
| 11:00 am | 31. Teleplay (SEA Games) |
| 11:40 am | 32. News/International News/Weather Report |
| 12:00 pm | 33. People Talks |
| 12:30 pm | 34. Hit Songs of Stars |
| | 35. News |
| | 36. Hyper Sports |
| | 37. Traditional Boxing |
| | 38. Talks Show |
| | 39. Teleplay |

MYANMAR INTERNATIONAL

6-12-13 07:00 am ~ 7-12-13 07:00 am) MST

- * Local News
- * Travelling to Shan Mountain Plateau "Aungban Myoma Market"
- * World News
- * National Races from Shan State (Gon Shan, Li Shan)
- * Local News
- * Journey To Unimaginable Spots (Episode-1)
- * World News
- * A Highland with Peace and Charm
- * Myanmar Traditional Wedding Ceremony
- * TECH SCHOOL
- * Local News
- * The Rising Glory of Myanmar Arts
- * World News
- * Feel Pretty....in a Rawan Outfit
- * 27th SEA GAMES COMPETITION
- * Local News
- * Bamboo Fashion in style
- * World News
- * Green Grocer
- * Local News
- * Travelling In Shan Mountain Ranges (Htan San Cave & Mwetaw Kakku)
- * World News
- * Myanmar Masterclass: Portraiture
- * Local News
- * Made of Jade
- * World News
- * The Beautiful Colourful Glass Ball
- * Local News
- * The Precious Lands of Myanmar (Mandalay Region)

Two factors key to lawsuits over New York train crash

NEW YORK, 5 Dec — For lawyers preparing to sue over Sunday's deadly New York commuter rail accident, their success in court may depend largely on two factors: whether human error caused the derailment and if state or federal law governs railroad safety in the case.

Tens or hundreds of millions of dollars could be at stake, based on previous cases. A Cook County, Illinois, jury in 2009, awarded more than \$29.5 million to a Chicago woman injured in a 2005 commuter train derailment. The investigation into the Metro-North derailment in the Bronx, which killed four and critically injured 11, has centred on the actions of the

train's engineer, William Rockefeller. He told investigators he lost focus right before the crash, his labour union leader told Reuters.

Investigators have said the seven-car train was travelling at 82 mph, nearly three times the speed limit for the curved section of track where it crashed.

A lawyer for Rockefeller was not immediately available for comment, and the National Transportation Safety Board has said it has not reached a conclusion into the accident's cause and would continue its work for weeks, if not months. Authorities have not found any mechanical problems with the train so far, but a safety system designed to

keep an engineer alert was not installed in the car from which Rockefeller was controlling the train, a source familiar with the railroad's operation told Reuters.

If government investigators determine human error caused the derailment, the agency operating the train could be held liable for the negligence of its employees under a common-law doctrine known as "vicarious liability."

That doctrine could apply, experts say, even if the Metropolitan Transportation Authority, the parent of Metro-North, can say it had no reason to question the engineer's competence.

"The case will turn on his conduct, not on the conduct of the MTA," UCLA



A still image taken from a MTA (Metropolitan Transportation Authority) video shows Hudson Line derailment recovery operations in New York on 2 Dec, 2013.—REUTERS

law professor Richard Abel said. If the accident is deemed to have been caused by a mechanical failure, liability could be spread among several possible defendants, including manufacturers of any parts found to have failed and various contractors. No

lawsuits have yet been filed in the wake of the crash, but New York plaintiffs' attorney Michael Lamonsoff told Reuters on Wednesday he had notified Metro-North that he planned to file a negligence suit on behalf of two injured passengers. Another lawyer, Joel

Faxon of New Haven, Connecticut, said he had consulted with two families about potential claims. The MTA "own the crash" if there was personnel error, he said. A spokesman for the MTA declined to comment about the agency's potential liability.—Reuters

Vice-President Dr Sai Mauk Kham receives Brazilian Ambassador

NAY PYI TAW, 5 Dec—Vice-President Dr Sai Mauk Kham received Brazilian Ambassador to Myanmar Mr. Jose Carlos da Fonseca Junior, who had completed his tour of duty, at the Credentials Hall of the Presidential Palace, here, this morning.

At the meeting, they discussed promoting of education, health and livestock breeding sectors and rural development tasks through technical exchange and signing the two MoUs on mutual cooperation between the two countries.

Present at the call together with the Vice-President were Deputy Minister for Foreign Affairs U Tin Oo Lwin and officials concerned.

MNA



Vice-President Dr Sai Mauk Kham shakes hands with Brazilian Ambassador to Myanmar Mr. Jose Carlos da Fonseca Junior, who had completed his tour of duty.—MNA

Letpadaungtaung copper mine project implemented for benefit of People

NAY PYI TAW, 5 Dec—Chairman of Implementation Committee of the Report of the Investigation Commission for Letpadaungtaung Copper Mine Project Union Minister at the President Office U Hla Tun inspected construction of Basic Education Primary School which is being implemented according to Cooperate Social Responsibility (CSR) in Hsete-Zitaw New Village yesterday evening. The 140 ft long, 30 ft wide and 12 ft high one-storey building was completed by 90 per cent.

They then provided sewing machines and foodstuff to the locals who are taking shelter at Aungmyay Myintha monastery in Hsete-Zitaw New Village and fire station in Wethmay-Kantaw New Village.

They met the local trainees who are attending on-job training course under the job creation programme of Letpadaungtaung Copper Mine Project Area at the meeting hall of Myanmar-Wenbao Co Ltd. The committee chairman said that the project is being implemented for the benefit of people. The committee is undertaking environmental conservation, land compen-

sation and socioeconomic development.

Committee Vice-Chairman Sagaing Region Chief Minister U Tha Aye took part in the discussions. Committee Member Union Minister Dr Myint Aung clarified matters on CSR and development of the locals in the project area and Union Minister U Win Tun on assessment concerning environment and socioeconomic impact.

In his concluding speech, the committee chairman said that the trainees play important role in implementing the project.

He urged those present to try their best to become outstanding trainees and to participate in regional development task. The five-month course—one month for theory and four months for practice—is being attended by 238 graduate trainees from the project area.

Afterwards, they looked into removal of upper soil layer of the project, called for minimizing environmental impact and work-site safety and inspected implementation of Nyaungpingyi Village water pumping project that will supply water to Phaungkar, Mogyopyin, Kangan and Dontaw Villages.—MNA

and inspected the Mammogram worth USD 150,000 donated by Mediva Inc to Central Women's Hospital (Yangon) under the Japan-Myanmar breast cancer project.

The Union Minister delivered a speech on the occasion.

Prof Dr. Okada of Okayama University Hospital elaborated the use of machine and Ms. Oishi of Mediva Inc clarified the purposes of the donation and handed over documents related to the machine to Medical Superintendent Dr Kyaw Swe.

Myanmar Maternal and Child Welfare Association, Myanmar Medical Association, the specialists from Central Women's Hospital and Department of Medical Research (Lower Myanmar) participated in doing research at the Japan-Myanmar Cancer Project.—MNA

Mammogram donated for breast cancer control

NAY PYI TAW, 5 Dec—Union Minister for Health Dr Pe Thet Khin met with medical officers, nurses and Red Cross members and viewed the ambulances at the emergency health care centers at mile post Nos. 190, 154, 84 and 40 Yangon-Mandalay Expressway on 2 December.

On 3 December, the

Union Minister, Ms. Oishi of Mediva Inc and Prof Dr. Okada of Okayama University Hospital formally opened the Japan-Myanmar Breast Cancer Project



Union Minister Dr Pe Thet Khin inspects an ambulance at the emergency health care centers on Yangon-Mandalay Expressway.—MNA

Senior General Min Aung Hlaing meets servicemen, families in Kyauktaw, Sittway stations

NAY PYI TAW, 5 Dec—Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services Senior General Min Aung Hlaing met the officers, other ranks and their families at Nawarat Hall in Kyauktaw Station and Bandoola Hall in Sittway Station yesterday.

At the meeting, the Senior General said that defence services needs to be a more systematic organization as it is taking responsibility for national defence duty for-

ever. He continued that no country accepts armed conflicts and terrorism in building a developed democratic country, saying the defence services is striving for a success of peace-making process with ethnic armed groups by showing patience and tolerance. He urged those present to go on the path to democracy selected by themselves in unity and harmony.

After the meeting, (See page 9)

Medal Tally

Country	Gold	Silver	Bronze
Myanmar	2	0	0
Thailand	2	2	0
Malaysia	0	0	4
Cambodia	0	1	1
Laos	0	1	2
Brunei	0	0	0
Indonesia	0	0	0
Philippines	0	0	0
Singapore	0	0	0
Vietnam	0	0	0
Timor Leste	0	0	0



Myanmar Taekwondo player fighting with his counterpart during a training session.—KYEMON